

Vicky Binetti of Region 3's Water Program reported that yesterday EPA had a lengthy call on a potential framework for the residential drinking water study. WV Gov. Tomblin had directed the WV Bureau of Public Health (WVBPH) to develop this study. EPA participants (statisticians and contaminant expert from the Office of Water, Region 3 Water Division staff) provided advice and input on the sampling strategy for the proposed study, potential constraints, and potential enhancements, as well as considerations for implementation. Also participating were Dr. Loretta Haddy, WV State Epidemiologist; Lt. Greg Grant and Michael Kitts, WV National Guard; Sherry Burrer, CDC epidemiologist; and Bob Helverson and Karl Markiewicz of ATSDR-CDC/Region 3.

EPA provided a summary of our discussion in the form of a "framework." Shortly thereafter, EPA heard from Walt Ivey (WV BPH, Director of the Drinking Water Program) that the Governor is seeking an almost immediate start to the study, so our discussion was timely. The team needs to develop many details, but the team's discussion will be the basis for the study's general design. The study also may use external parties (i.e., other than state staff) to implement parts of the study.

OSC Dennis Matlock reported that CEC completed purging monitoring wells 3, 4, 5, and 6. These monitoring wells are located at the base of the slope behind the facility, downgradient of the tank farm. Following recharge, samples were collected from all four wells. WVDEP and EPA collected split samples from each of the wells. WVDEP noted a petroleum odor in the water in all four wells; however, no MCHM odor was detected in the water in any of the wells.

A crew remains on site to oversee water pumping operations as needed. The pipe at the front of the containment wall is now estimated to be discharging 1,000 gallons of water per hour. The source of the water is still unknown. In addition, the facility continues to inspect and maintain the boom in the Elk River.

The facility has pumped approximately 100,000 gallons of water, which remains staged at the Poca facility pending treatment and/or disposal. The facility estimates that all product on-site will be shipped off-site by March 15.